

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 286540  
ORIGIN EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 TRSE-00 NSCE-00 EB-08 STR-05  
COME-00 SP-02 SSO-00 /043 R

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APPROVED BY EA - RICHARD HOLBROOKE  
E - RCOOPER  
TREASURY - SOLOMON  
NSC - ARMACOST  
EB - HORMATZ  
STR - WOLFF  
COMMERCE - KATZ (SUBS)  
DESIRED DISTRIBUTION  
E, EB, TREASURY, STR, NSC AND COMMERCE

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O 010205Z DEC 77  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 286540

FOR AMBASSADOR MANSFIELD FROM HOLBROOKE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ECON, EFIN, ETRD, PFOR, JA, US

SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO PRIME MINISTER'S PROPOSAL FOR GOJ  
TEAM VISIT

REFERENCE: TOKYO 18267

1. THE PRESIDENT AND KEY CABINET MEMBERS CONCERNED HAVE  
READ PRIME MINISTER FUKUDA'S MESSAGE PASSED TO YOU BY HIS  
PRIVATE SECRETARY, MR. OWADA. YOU ARE REQUESTED TO RELAY  
ORALLY TO THE PRIME MINISTER (OR VIA MR. OWADA) THE  
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FOLLOWING MESSAGE AT YOUR EARLIEST CONVENIENCE: THE  
PRESIDENT APPRECIATES THE MESSAGE WHICH MR. OWADA CONVEYED  
TO AMBASSADOR MANSFIELD ON NOVEMBER 28 CONCERNING RECENT  
CHANGES IN THE JAPANESE CABINET. HE BELIEVES THAT PRIME  
MINISTER FUKUDA HAS PUT TOGETHER AN IMPRESSIVE TEAM, AND  
THE UNITED STATES LOOKS FORWARD TO COOPERATING CLOSELY  
WITH THEM IN OVERCOMING THE SERIOUS DIFFICULTIES FACING

THE WORLD ECONOMY. HE REGARDS THE QUALITY AND EXPERIENCE OF THOSE MEN CHARGED WITH RUNNING THE KEY ECONOMIC MINISTRIES AS AN EARNEST OF THE PRIME MINISTER'S DESIRE URGENTLY TO COME TO GRIPS WITH THE PROBLEMS WE JOINTLY FACE.

2. THE PRESIDENT WELCOMES THE PRIME MINISTER'S SUGGESTION

FOR CONTINUING THE DIALOGUE BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES ON ECONOMIC ISSUES BY SENDING A SMALL GROUP OF HIS CLOSEST ASSOCIATES TO THIS COUNTRY. SENIOR ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS WITH MAJOR RESPONSIBILITIES FOR U.S. ECONOMIC POLICY WOULD BE HAPPY TO MEET WITH THEM. END PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE.

3. IN TRANSMITTING THIS MESSAGE, YOU SHOULD ALSO INDICATE THE FOLLOWING. AS TO TIMING, WE APPRECIATE THE NEED FOR THE NEW JAPANESE CABINET TO INSTALL ITSELF AND SETTLE BROAD POLICY GUIDELINES BEFORE DISPATCHING A TEAM TO WASHINGTON. WE CONSIDER SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION OF CONSULTATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENT OF AN ADEQUATE SET OF MEASURES BY YEAR-END TO BE ESSENTIAL IF WE ARE TO AVOID FURTHER BUILD-UP OF PROTECTIONIST PRESSURES THAT MAY PROVE DIFFICULT TO MANAGE. WHILE TIME LIMITATIONS ARE SEVERE, THE EARLIEST WE CAN ASSURE OPTIMUM US CABINET AND LEGISLATIVE PARTICIPATION WOULD BE DECEMBER 12-15. WE HOPE THE TEAM  
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CAN SCHEDULE FOUR DAYS HERE TO ALLOW SUFFICIENT TIME FOR DISCUSSIONS WITH ALL KEY OFFICIALS.

4. IN LIGHT OF THESE DATES, IT WOULD BE HIGHLY DESIRABLE FOR THE GOJ TO SEND A TECHNICAL TEAM THE PRECEDING WEEK TO CONVEY IN AS MUCH DETAIL AS POSSIBLE THE MEASURES USHIBA WILL DISCUSS HERE, OR IF THIS IS NOT POSSIBLE, TO TRANSMIT THIS INFORMATION IN ADVANCE THROUGH OUR EMBASSY IN TOKYO TO PERMIT THOROUGH CONSIDERATION AND REQUESTS FOR CLARIFICATION IF NEEDED BEFORE USHIBA'S ARRIVAL.

5. WHILE WE SHARE THE GOJ HOPE THAT THE JAPANESE TEAM'S VISIT WOULD ELIMINATE THE NEED FOR FURTHER CONSULTATIONS PRIOR TO A STRAUSS VISIT, WE PREFER TO RESERVE JUDGMENT ON THIS POINT UNTIL WE SEE IF ENOUGH PROGRESS HAD BEEN MADE TO OBTAIN FURTHER INTERIM TALKS.

6. FYI: I MADE THE ABOVE POINTS PARAS 3 AND 5 TO AMBASSADOR TOGO IN A CONVERSATION NOVEMBER 30 (SEPTTEL). VANCE

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Subject:** RESPONSE TO PRIME MINISTER'S PROPOSAL FOR GOJ TEAM VISIT  
**TAGS:** ECON, EFIN, ETRD, PFOR, JA, US  
**To:** TOKYO  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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